

Message Text

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47

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00

PM-03 INR-05 CIAE-00 SP-02 PRS-01 IO-03 L-01 /036 W

----- 011695

Z O 141406Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 4196

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE

DOD WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC HON IMMEDIATE

USSAG NAKHON PHANOM IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 8772

LIMDIS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TH, US

SUBJ: THAI OBJECTION TO THE U.S. MILITARY USE OF THAILAND
FOR ACTIONS IN CAMBODIA

REF: A. BANGKOK 8737; B. BANGKOK 8684 (NOTAL); C. BANGKOK 8771

1. PRIME MINISTER KHUKRIT PRAMOT SUMMONED THE
CHARGE THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 14 (REFTEL A). KHUKRIT
BEGAN BY ASKING FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE ARRIVAL
OF U.S. MARINES IN THAILAND. THE CHARGE TOLD
KHUKRIT THAT WASHINGTON HAD NOT INFORMED
HIM ABOUT U.S. MILITARY ACTIONS IN INDOCHINA WHEN HE
MET WITH THE PRIME MINISTER THE PREVIOUS DAY (REFTEL B).
KHUKRIT SAID THAT HE WAS AWARE OF THIS SITUATION.

2. THE CHARGE THEN SAID THAT THERE WERE SOMEWHAT
OVER 1100 MARINES CURRENTLY AT UTAPAO. KHUKRIT ASKED
WHAT WE INTENDED TO DO WITH THEM. THE CHARGE REPLIED
THAT HE WAS NOT INFORMED ON WHAT OUR INTENTIONS ARE,
BUT HE WOULD ASSUME THAT WHATEVER WILL BE DONE WITH
THEM WILL BE DONE QUICKLY.

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3. KHUKRIT, REFERRING TO THE MOVIE ROLE OF PRIME MINISTER OF SARKHAN THAT HE ONCE PORTRAYED, SAID THAT HE WAS SORRY TO HAVE TO REPLAY "THE UGLY AMERICAN." HE PERSONALLY REGRETTED HAVING TO HAND OVER AN AIDE MEMOIRE ON THE SUBJECT OF THE USE OF THAI BASES FOR MILITARY ACTIONS IN INDOCHINA, BUT HE HAD NO CHOICE. (REF C CONTAINS THE TEXT OF THE AIDE MEMOIRE.) THE CHARGE SAID HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY PASS THE PRIME MINISTER'S VIEWS TO WASHINGTON.

4. COMMENT. KHUKRIT WAS OBVIOUSLY PAINED BY THE POSITION U.S. GOVERNMENT ACTIONS HAVE PUT HIM IN, BUT HE WAS CALM AND NOT UNFRIENDLY THROUGHOUT THIS SHORT SESSION. HOWEVER, HE SUBSEQUENTLY TOLD THE PRESS IN A SERIES OF STRONG STATEMENTS THAT THE U.S. MUST REMOVE THE MARINES "IMMEDIATELY." HE SAID HE WOULD BE WAITING TO SEE TOMORROW MORNING WHAT THE SITUATION IS. THE PRESSURES ARE BUILDING RAPIDLY HERE. IT IS MOST IMPORTANT THAT WE REMOVE THE MARINES FROM THAILAND JUST AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, HOPEFULLY ON MAY 15. IF WE ARE NOT ABLE TO DO THIS, WE WILL BE IN FOR REAL TROUBLE ON FRIDAY, MAY 16. WHITEHOUSE

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